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## ON READING A LATE PUBLICATION ON THE *Effects of Wine and Spirits.*

HOW oft, when breezes ſwell the ſail,
And when, with placid courſe, the Bark
Glides o'er the boſom of the Deep;
How oft, alas! obſcur'd from view,
Uplifts its craggy head, the Rock,
Beneath the flowing wave, and ſtrikes
The yielding veſſel's ſhatter'd ſide.

Now all is loſt—nor now avail
The fervid ſupplications, drawn
From flinty hearts, by Death's approach.

So man, by health and pleaſure borne,
Glides gaily o'er the ſea of life,
And with unheeded paſſion quaffs
The poiſon'd bowl. 'Till ſuddenly,
Benumb' his limbs, thoſe lips now mute
Which 'midſt convivial mirth attun'd
The joyous ſong, or now convuls'd
With brilliant wit the feſtive train.

O REASON! Pilot of the Mind!
Guide thou our path, where TEMP'RANCE,
Chaſte Goddeſs! ever dwells, afar
From giddy DISSIPATION's haunt;
The nightly revel, and the board
Where fumes the gaudy banquet's ſtore.
No more ſhall Palſy then deſtroy,
Nor half the ills, which mingle now
With Pleaſure's draught their poiſon dire.

Let not the ſparkling Wine betray
To vicious courſe, thy youthful mind:
Remember, as the Viper lurks
Beneath the Vine, where tendrils play,
And ruddy grapes o'erhang the ground—
So lurks the Poiſon in the cup,
Tho' Nectar crowns the vaſe, and high
Above, the foaming liquor, ſwells.

Drink—and thy ſoul new ardour gains
From gen'rous ſpirit. But TOO DEEP,
If raſhly thou exhauſt—Poiſon
And Death, thy dreadful fate, await.

Liſten, ye gay—ye thoughtleſs, think,
How falſe the merriment which oft
Surrounds the board of ſocial joy.
Think, and beware—ſwift flies the hour—
Read S——D, and be taught to live.

RAPTIM.
DEC. 4, 1799.

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